

Clinical Practice Advisories: January 2014- December 2014

Board Advisory Date:

January 16, 2014

RN scope of practice:
Insulin management

Question: Is it within RN scope of practice for Certified Diabetes Educator Registered Nurse to adjust insulin dosing of out-patients based on approved Insulin Adjustment Protocol when ordered/activated by physician office practice providers with patient referral to Diabetes Services for Insulin Management?

Answer: Board consensus that it is within RN scope of practice to manage insulin as long as RN is following standard provider order.

February 20, 2014

APRN's prescribing for family members.

Board concurred with NH Board of Medicine's support of AMA Ethical Guidelines regarding prescribing for family members. The NH BON recognizes, as NH Board of Medicine has for physicians, that there are certain situations where APRNs could appropriately prescribe for family members in acute, short term situations. See AMA Ethical Guidelines 8.19 Self-Treatment or Treatment of Immediate Family Members. To paraphrase this guideline, "It would not always be inappropriate for APRNs to undertake self-treatment or treatment of immediate family members. In emergency settings or isolated settings where there is no other qualified health care provider available, APRNs should not hesitate to treat themselves or family members until another qualified health care provider becomes available. In addition, while APRNs should not serve as a primary or regular care provider for immediate family members, there are situations in which routine care is acceptable for short-term, minor problems. Except in exceptional, emergency situations, it is not appropriate for APRNs to write prescriptions for controlled substances for themselves or immediate family members.

CNM-attending Trial of Labor after Cesarean Section or Vaginal Birth After Cesarean (TOLAC/VBAC) in the out of hospital setting

Question: Re-evaluation requested of Clinical Practice Advisory, issued January 17, 2008, relative to CNM-attended trial of labor after cesarean section or vaginal birth after cesarean (TOLAC/VBAC) in the out of hospital setting.

Answer: Board reaffirmed that it continues to support the APRN Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) role in providing VBAC deliveries and applauds the efforts for birthing choices in New Hampshire. Substantial evidence now supports that with appropriate risk stratification and appropriate labor management, low risk women who have experienced a prior cesarean birth have similar birth outcomes to non-VBAC women BON continues to expect that APRNs fully inform women about the evidence of harm and benefit of TOLAC.

May 15, 2014

RN Scope of Practice:
Perform physical examination to medically certify a driver as physically qualified to drive commercial motor vehicle in interstate commerce.

Question: Is it within RN scope of practice to conduct testing and physical examination of body systems as required on Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Medical Examination Report to determine whether driver is physically qualified to drive commercial motor vehicle in interstate commerce, and to complete Medical Examiner's Certificate?

Answer: Board consensus that it is NOT within RN scope of practice to perform physical examination to medically certify a driver as physically qualified to drive commercial motor vehicle in interstate commerce.

LNA Scope of Practice:
Parameters for LNA practice in relation to medication handling

Question: Revisited question of whether or not it is within LNA scope of practice to handle medications.

Answer: Board consensus that it is within the scope of practice of an LNA to convey unopened/packaged medications under the supervision of a licensed nurse. Facility/agency policies and procedures must be in place to guide practice. Education and competency should address the requirements of this task.

RN Scope of Practice:
Taking verbal orders from technicians

Question: Is it within RN scope of practice to accept verbal orders from technicians as a "relaying of an order" from provider?

Answer: Board reiterated that in order for a nurse to write a verbal order, that verbal order must come from the provider. Verbal orders are recommended only in emergency situations. Facilities must determine a better process in order to facilitate direct communication of an order to a nurse who is required to write that order.

June 19, 2014

LNA Scope of Practice:
Disconnect patient's NG from wall suction to assist with toileting

Question: Can LNA disconnect patient's NG from wall suction to bring them to bathroom and then reconnect to wall suction once settled?

Answer: Board reaffirmed opinion of January 17, 2013 that it is NOT within scope of practice for LNA to clamp NG Tube OR perform other functions associated with NG tubes based on need for assessment.

July 17, 2014

RN Scope of Practice:
Certifying cause of death on death certificate

Question: Is it within RN scope of practice to certify cause of death on death certificate?

Answer: Board affirmed that it is NOT within RN scope of practice to certify cause of death on death certificate. Such certification requires forensic diagnosis as to cause of death which is beyond RN scope of practice.

LPN Scope of Practice:
Perform peritoneal dialysis

Question: Is it within LPN scope of practice to perform peritoneal dialysis?

<p><u>August 21, 2014</u></p> <p>Electronic nursing delegation of medication administration</p>	<p>Answer: After receiving recommendations from P & E Committee, Board affirmed that LPNs may perform peritoneal dialysis in acute care setting provided following stipulations are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LPN must complete educational program in PD which is taught by qualified RN instructor; • Educational program must include components recommended by American Nephrology Nurse's Association; • Education and competency of LPN must be documented; • There must be RN readily available in facility or on call at all times. <p>Question: Is it within scope of practice of nurse to electronically delegate medication administration to non-licensed staff in assisted living?</p> <p>Answer: Board consensus to approve use of telemedicine services for nursing delegation.</p>
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